

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

The James W. O'Hara House

AND/OR COMMON

Convent of the Sisters of Mercy

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

107 Church Lane

CITY, TOWN

Cockeysville

— VICINITY OF Texas

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

2nd Congressional District

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Baltimore

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

## PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☒ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

The Archdiocese of Baltimore/  
St Joseph's Roman Catholic Church

Convent Phone

Telephone #: 666-1733

STREET &amp; NUMBER

101 Church Lane

CITY, TOWN

Cockeysville

☒ VICINITY OF Texas

STATE, zip code

Maryland # 21030

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Baltimore County Court's Building

Liber #: HMF 44 HMF 48

Folio #: 447 543

STREET &amp; NUMBER

401 Bosley Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Towson

STATE

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

BA-1807

**CONDITION**

☒ EXCELLENT  
☐ GOOD  
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED  
☐ RUINS  
☐ UNEXPOSED

**CHECK ONE**

☐ UNALTERED  
☒ ALTERED

**CHECK ONE**

☒ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

This large commodious dwelling is located on a tree shaded lot well back from the street on the south side of Church Lane in Texas. It was left to St Joseph's Church in the will of Miss Ella O'Hara and is used as a convent by "The Sisters of Mercy", who teach at St Joseph's School.

The house is in the Colonial Revival style and probably built very early in the 20th century. It is of central block design, two stories and attic with a two story extension/addition on the south. The house is frame and covered with asbestos siding, the foundations are of coursed stone with a wooden watertable. The roofs on both the main block and addition are equilateral hip, they are shingled. There are two hip dormers each on the north, west and east angles of the roof of the main block, while there is one on the south. The deep, plain cornice has a tongue in groove soffit. An interior brick chimney is located on the east of the main roof.

The dwelling has a one story, four bay porch on the north facade, which extends one bay east and west. The foundations are stone and ten wood Doric style columns support the hip roof. The south - west corner of the addition has a two bay sleeping porch on the second floor and a two bay cement porch on the first. The bulkhead entrance to the cellar is located on the west. A one bay entrance also located on the west facade of the addition has a hood supported by consoles.

All windows are 1/1 lite with the exception of a stair window on the west which is 1/1 with a plain elliptical fanlight and a centrally located oval window on the second floor of the north facade. This small window has tracery which is framed by a bulls eye with keys.

The house is three bays on the main block and two on the addition on the east facade, three bays on the main block and three on the addition on the west and two on the south. The entrance door on the north facade is half glass.

Alterations have apparently been made to the first floor service porch on the southwest corner of the addition.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)		
					Street Scape	
					Local History	

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This large frame house is important as a vernacular interpretation of the Colonial Revival/Neo Georgian Style of architecture popular from about 1895 - 1930. It combines a formal arrangement with an almost symmetrical composition. It utilizes elements of the colonial, Georgian, and contemporary styles of architecture. As part of the street scape formed by the St Joseph's complex, the convent appears to be harmonious in scale, material and position with the other church buildings.

The house was built sometime between 1898 - 1911 by the O'Hara family, wealthy merchants and landowners in Texas. The 4 acre tract was acquired by Martin O'Hara from John P. Clark in 1866, but was undeveloped at O'Hara's death in 1877. The house was apparently built by O'Hara's son James W. whose daughter Ella on her death in 1931, bequeathed the house and four acres to Archbishop Curley of the Archdiocese of Baltimore. Subsequently the house became a convent for "The Sister's of Mercy", who had since 1926 been responsible for St Joseph's Parochial School. The O'Hara's had been early and devoted members of St Joseph's Church.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

BA-1807

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Baltimore County Tax Lists 1876, 1896, 1911, 1918  
Baltimore County Wills J.P.C. 27 Folio 379 and J.P.C. 27 Folio 387  
Baltimore County Inventories Liber 49 Folio 547; Liber 52 Folio 478  
Baltimore County Land Records: JHL 48/543, JHL 44/447  
"The Diamond Jubilee of St Joseph's Parish" Very Rev. Albert E. Smith  
Baltimore, 1927  
CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 4 acres

### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

### LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Marion S. Anderson ( student )

ORGANIZATION

Goucher College

STREET & NUMBER

200 Brightdale Road

CITY OR TOWN

Timonium

DATE

December 19, 1978

TELEPHONE

252-1576

STATE

Maryland # 21093

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

## CONVENT OF THE SISTERS OF MERCY ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH

JPC 27/387 - 10 December 1924 - Will of Ella O'Hara - Codicil 2 April 1931 Will proved 2 December 1931.

Item: She revoked and devised bequest to cousin Elizabeth O'Hara and in lieu substituted the following - Four acres of land with improvements to The Most Reverend Michael J. Curley. Household furniture, silverware and all contents of dwelling on said property to cousin Elizabeth O'Hara.

No deed was found for transfer of the 4 acres to Rev Michael J. Curley, probably because it was devised by will.

JHL 48/543 - 19 May 1866- John P. Clark deed to Martin O'Hara - 2 acres - \$ 600 Beginning for same on south side of County Road leading from Texas to the York Turnpike Road at end of first line of ground heretofore conveyed by said Clark to said O'Hara thence running with and bounding on the south side of said County Road  
North 79° west 8 8/10 perches to a stake thence  
South 3° west 37 1/2 perches to a stake planted twenty feet from the center of the railroad track thence  
South 73 1/4° east parallel with said railroad track and 8 and 8/10 perches to the end of the second line of lot conveyed by Clark to O'Hara as afore-said thence  
Running with and bounding on said line reversely  
North 3° east 38 1/2 perches to place of beginning

JHL 44/447 - 2 July 1864 - John P. Clark deed to Martin O'Hara - 2 acres \$ 500. Beginning on the south side of the road leading from Texas to the York Turnpike Road at the end of the first line of the land conveyed by John Clark to Francis Patrick Kendrick for a graveyard lot thence running with and bounding on the south side of said road  
North westerly 8 perches thence  
South 2 1/4° west parallel with the second line of the graveyard lot 39 perches more or less to the north side of a road thence running with and bounding on the north side of said road  
South easterly 8 perches to the end of the second line of the graveyard lot, thence running with and bounding on said second line reversely  
North 2 1/4° east 39 6/10 perches to the place of beginning.

It is likely that the dwelling is built on this last mentioned lot. It is also likely that both lots are a part of the land deeded to John Clark by Charles Buchanan 4 June 1849 A.W.B. 414 folio 387. And if followed back far enough will prove to be a portion of Lot # 4 of the property of Thomas Cockey Deye belonging to Mary C. Nisbet or of Lot # 3 which was awarded to Thomas Deye Cockey.

107 CHURCH LANE

1 square = 2 feet

